'Hearts' lend a hand

Mrs. Helen Gunter, president of the Young Hearts Club, is shown presenting a $50.00 check to the Appomattox County Rescue Squad from her club. Accepting the check for the local squad is Andy Scruggs, president of ACRS.

Marine completes training

Reuben N. Wheeler

Marine Private Reuben N. Wheeler, son of Lyne and Hallie Wheeler of Route 1, Madisonville, has completed recruit training at the Marine Recruit Depot, Paris Island, S. C.

During the training cycle he learned the basics of explosive and mission survival and studied the personal and professional standard tradition exhibited by marines. He will be stationed in Alabama for more training for a 20-week period.

Wheeler is a graduate of Randolph Henry High School. He joined the Marine Corps in October.

Wood haul reported

Listed below is the total dollar volume of wood purchased by Virginia Fibre Corporation of Riverville for the week ending Feb. 3, 1980. Purchases are listed by counties.

Albermarle	10,496.54	Augusta	1,316.21
Amelia	4,602.49	Bedford-County	1,435.24
Amherst	9,253.93	Buckingham	21,903.92
Appomattox	20,962.06	Campbell	3,527.91
		Charlotte	2,134.46
		Cumberland	4,409.85
			1,499.57
		Fluvanna	384.20
		Goochland	772.23
		Mecklenburg	1,665.32
		Nelson	13,189.45
		Pittsylvania	3,052.03
		Powhatan	2,674.94
		Prince Edward	10,210.26
		Prince William	380.14
		Rockbridge	390.20
			114,450.95

We feel this information is of interest to our readers in Appomattox County and in the counties adjoining.

Men's Day will be observed at Red Oak

Baptist Men's Day will be observed Sunday morning, Feb. 17, at Red Oak Baptist Church in Oakville.

At this time the men of the church will have charge of the entire worship service.

Rev. G. E. Hughes, pastor of the church, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend.

Eastern Star plans meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Order of the Eastern Star will be held Monday, Feb. 18, in the Chapter Room at 8 p.m.

All members are urged to attend.

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$4,000 brings forth 'a lot of bull'

By: JAMES A SMITH

The Culpeper Senior Bull Test averaged $1617 on 67 lots. The top selling bull was an angus bull that brought $4000.

SAFETY TIP–Don't use or carry in clothing a butane lighter when welding. Reports state that two railway workers were killed when hot welding sparks melted through the plastic lighter and caused the butane to explode. Remember: one butane lighter explodes with the force equivalent to three sticks of dynamite!

* * *

Just because it's cold–don't forget the grain in storage. It should be checked weekly. Grain that is heating or smelling needs to be aerated with 1/10 CFM/bu. If the grain is sprouting or molding–better get some more drying.

* * *

There is a new strawberry variety on the market for spring planting. It's called Scott.

It has been tested at Virginia Tech–they are very high on this one.

Scott is productive, vigorous, resistant to five races of red stele root rot, partially resistant to verticillium wilt and the leaves are resistant to powdery mildew and leaf scorch.

This is a mid-season maturity, about the same time as Guardian and Red Chief.

* * *

All cattle owners–Beef and Dairy–need to get magnesium into their cows. Some cattle owners have already had losses from grass tetany.

One way to get magnesium into cows is to remove all salt and minerals–mix equal parts magnesium oxide, trace mineral salt, dicalcium phosphate and a palatable feed such as either dry molasses, peanut meal, cottonseed meal, soybean meal or ground corn. Daily consumption of at least ½ ounce of magnesium oxide (2 ounces of the mixture) is desirable.

* * *

If you operate one of the larger tractors or combines consider having a 202 sample of crankcase oil analyzed for abnormal quantities of wear metals, additives, and contaminants. Costs are about $10. This should be done twice a year. Spectometric Oil Analysis Association, Box 4033, Atlanta Georgia 30329 can provide a listing of oil analysis laboratories in the U.S.

* * *

If you are interested in receiving monthly information in the form of a one-page "Market Advisory Newsletter", call this office (352-8244) and give us your name and address. This newsletter deals with cattle, hogs, corn, soybeans and wheat.

Beginning with the current issue it is being sent the Professional Agricultural Workers in the county.

The South 40

Pamplin Center announces 1980 slate

The Board of Directors for Pamplin Community Center recently announced the following schedule of events for the summer of 1980. The center will be in use each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Wednesday evenings will be available for make up games. In addition to the regular schedule, the Board made plans for six softball tournaments, a country music show and a family day event.

The schedule will include:

Tuesdays and Thursdays–Appomattox Dixie Youth Baseball Association;

Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays–Church Softball League; and

Wednesdays–Available for make-up games.

SPECIAL EVENTS

April 18 - 20–Invitational Softball Tournament;

May 16 - 18–Tolley's Inc.-Pamplin Community Center Softball Tournament;

May 30 - June 1–Church Team Softball Tournament;

June 20 - 22–Split Team (½ mens teams, ½ womens teams) Tournament;

July 11 - 13–Church Team Softball Tournament;

August 1 - 3–Invitational Tournament;

Country Music Show–August 15, 7:00 p.m.; and

Family Day–August 23

The public is invited to attend and participate in the events at the Pamplin Community Center. Teams interested in participating in the scheduled tournaments may contact Mr. T. Ryland Womack (248-6480) after 6:00 p.m.

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A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

TWO SECTIONS-20 PAGES

VOLUME 69-NUMBER 8 | APPOMATTOX, (VA.) - TIMES-VIRGINIAN- FEBRUARY 21, 1980 | SINGLE COPY PRICE - 20c

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

February is Anchorman or King Winter's team. You expect more from an Anchorman and usually get it. Weatherwise there have been more severe February extremes and we have no complaint. And yesterday I walked through my flower garden area and was pleased that green shoots were poking up from spaces where I set out bulbs last fall. No doubt about it, a positive identification. So, maybe things will run on schedule for awhile. Ash Wednesday this week and Easter is on the way.

* * *

I did have a disaster a few days ago. I was in my basement, just browsing around, and came upon a stack of old 78 rpm records. The second one I picked up was Jimmy Durante's hit, Hinda Dinka Doo and on the flip Umbriago. Durante died recently and I placed the record on a table planning to take it up to the Den to play on the stereo. Browsed some more and accidently knocked the precious record to the floor and it broke into small pieces. Some years ago we drove our car to California and took a guided bus tour in Beverley Hills and went by Durante's home. Had I been in my own car would have parked and knocked on his door and betcha he would have played me a tune. He was All-American.

* * *

Seminole basketball tournaments are coming up and local fans will be following ACHS teams.

* * *

Many of us have been watching the Winter Olympics and the keen competition for medals. Most of the winter events are not featured in Appomattox sports activity. How many pairs of ice skates in Appomattox? We would do better were baseball and football on the program.

* * *

The Decade of the 80's opens a new chapter. May 't be a great period in time. What decade impressed you most? I came to Appomattox in 1931, and faced The Great Depression. But the decade I recall most was The Roaring Twenties. Fresh from victory in World War I we were aglow with pride and power. We had Mary Pickfor, Douglas Fairbanks, Charlie Chaplin and Rudolph Valentino. Bobby Jones, Bill Tilden, Jack Dempsey, Red Grange and Knute Rockne. Ah yes, Billy Sunday and Cal Coolidge. The Talking Movies. What a Decade. And how was it in Appomattox? Our Town was incorporated in 1925, with James W. Cawthorne as first Mayor, followed by W. L. Brown and C. S. McDearmon. C. W. Smith was county clerk, H. W. McKinney was sheriff, J. H. O'Brien commissioner of revenue, D. A. Conner game warden, R. F. Burks and then R. L. Burks treasurer; S. L. Ferguson, H. D. Flood, Joel W. Flood, prominent attorneys. Leading local merchants were L. E. Smith, H. M. Burge, A. T. Inge, J. D. and W. M. Morris, H. C. Pulliam, Will Smith, J. M. Rosser, Miss Emma Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Reynolds, Chas. F. James, and we had the leadership of A. R. Harwood, H. C. Babcock, L. M. Wilkes, Don Moses, Prof. L. Crawley. Do you remember: Miss Kate Franklin, Miss M. Anna Jones, C. K. Hunter, Rev. Peter Price, Rev. W. M. Thompson, Alec Bingham, R. W. Wilkins, B. G. Anderson, J. A. Burks, LeRoy Smith, R. S. Wheeler, Walter Scott, W. M. Hancock, Dr. D. N. Twyman, Dr. D. A. Chrisian, Jr., Bee Caldwell, E. T. Mitchell? J. E. Sears, N. R. Featherston, Bob Craig, Spiller Trent, M. P. Porter, T. W. Moses, Rev. R. E. Redding, Miss Eula Mae Burks, Dr. H. G. Ahbitz, Lester B. Harvey, W. T. Nash, A. A. Baldwin, and H. G. Johnson, and so many fine personalities of the 1920's! I could double the list.

* * *

Appomattox is A Growing Town and so many have helped it grow.

Bloodmobile donations set new record

At last week's visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile, 152 units of blood was collected, a record for the county.

The quota for the visit last week was 100 units of blood and with the collection of 152 units some of the county's past shortages have been made up and this will help bring the blood bank up to a safe margin.

There were also a record number of first time donors, 27 persons donated blood for the first time.

First time donors were Ronald Hipps, William C. Perrow, Phillip Paulette, Robert Hardin, Dale Garrett, Kevin Moore, Ernest Chenault, Scott Stevens, Robert Dunnam, Jerry Trent, Jr., Maurice Ford, Clark Chernault, John Luckenbill, Mark Pierce, Shirley W. Walton, Michael Weakley, Thelma G. Maddox, Ella Mae Godsey, Delores Cheatham, David C. Smith, Ann G. Reynolds, Gail Thompson, Charlie Garrett, Mark Thomas, Margaret L. Grain, Gregg Love and Doris P. Cheatham.

Another record was broken at this visit, too, according to Mrs. Alice C. Martin, chariman of Blood Services Program in the county. 19 pins were given to donors as follows: William E. Mann, 5 gallon pin; Peyton G. Cumbie and James E. McClary, Jr., 4 gallon pins; Thomas R. Terry and Evelyn Crain received 3 gallon pins; 2 gallon pins went to Harry Otaway Guill, James L. Burcher, Laura K. Martin, Betty C. Rhodenizer, and Karen A. Knapp; and 1 gallon pins were given to James A. Lucado, William F. Grishaw, Marsha Ryan, Benjamin R. Bryant, Donald R. Scruggs, Paul D. Kvasnicka, Jr., Ernest Humbles, Donald R. Giles, and Kathleen Lawhorn.

Mrs. Martin would like to thank all who had a part in making this visit so successful. "It is a pleasure to work with so many fine people," she said and added "remember the blood mobile unit comes to Appomattox every other month now so be watching and listening for news of the next visit on April 8."

REV. RAYMOND H. TURNER, 288 Millview Lane, Lynchburg, was in Appomattox Monday and donated his 72nd unit of blood in the past 21 years at our regular visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile. A native of Appomattox County and a graduate of the Carver-Price High School, he had lived in Washington, D. C. for 12 years before returning to this area in October. In Lynchburg he is a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service and pastors St. Mark Baptist Church in Amherst and New Mount Baptist Church in Nelson County. In an effort to encourage brothers and sisters to donate blood, Rev. Turner says, "some things hurt for a little while - giving blood doesn't hurt at all".

Teachers' raises at seven percent

Teachers in Appomattox County schools will get a seven percent increase in salary next year, along with a "step" increase based on experience, if the proposed budget is approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The proposed salary scale would run from $10,000 per year with no step increase for teachers with no experience, to $15,000 per year for teachers with 17 years of experience.

The experience step is in effect for teachers with between one and 16 years' experience and is scaled thus: one to three years' experience, $200; four to nine years' experience, $300; ten to 13 years' experience, $400; and 14 to 16 years' experience, $500.

While the overall salary increase for teachers is approximately seven percent, the budget allotment is 13.1 percent. Government mandates requiring the school district to increase the size of its teaching staff to allow for a 21-1 student-teacher ratio may necessitate hiring additional teachers, and the added cost of those salaries account for the 13 percent increase, according to Lloyd Walton, superintendent of schools in Appomattox County.

Walton added that increases in maintaining the schools' physical plants will be used to make the buildings more energy efficient.

The school board has applied for a federal grant which, if approved, will match $25,000 put up locally to improve the energy efficiency of the schools.

Walton said such steps include installing a new furnace at the middle school, and installing new windows or renovating older ones to keep them from allowing heat escape.

APPOMATTOX GAME WARDEN CHARLES TORRENCE (left) presents W. L. "Bill" Williamson with a check for $100, for testimony which led to the convictions of several individuals who illegally killed a wild turkey recently. The award is part of a program sponsored by the Virginia Wild Turkey Federation, an affiliate of the National Wild Turkey Federation. The program awards $100 to anyone who reports and testifies successfully against persons killing wild turkeys illegally.

Commission of Revenue offers free income-tax aid

The County Commission of Revenue will again this year offer free tax assistance to Appomattox residents filling out state and federal income tax returns forms, according to Monte Mays, county commission of revenue.

Mays says necessary state and federal income tax forms are available in the revenue office. He notes that Commission of Revenue personnel will not work on federal return forms on Mondays. "The office personnel will spend Mondays auditing state tax returns," according to Mays. "We will audit state returns from all Appomattox residents, so if there is an error, we can catch it before it's sent to Richmond."

Tuesdays through Fridays the office will assist county residents on their federal return forms, however. "We'll be working on them from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.," Mays notes. He adds that questions regarding state tax return forms will be handled during those hours, as well.

The office will also be open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon during the month of March, as well as the first two Saturdays in April.

'Hazardous' workshop slated

A hazardous materials workshop will be offered here Feb. 28, according to the Office of Emergency and Energy Services.

The workshop will be presented on Thursday night, Feb. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Appomattox County Rescue Squad building.

Subjects to be covered in the one-night class will include hazardous materials properties and identification, threat assessment, resource materials, and emergency response procedures.

All volunteer emergency personnel (such as rescue squad and fire department members), paid medical personnel and local and state police, as well as all interested persons are invited to attend this workshop.

If you have questions or would like additional information, you may contact W. R. Britton, Jr., Emergency and Energy Services Coordinator for Appomattox County.

Eroding land prompts feds to consider SCS changes

By BILL SHERROD

In Appomattox, every inch of soil that is eroded from an acre of cropland permanently reduces that acre's crop-producing potential by six bushels.

That is one of many reasons the federal government is seeking ways to improve its soil conservation program, according to Robert McClenny, Jr., soil conservationist for the Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District.

"Nationally, we're losing 10,000 acres a day of prime farmland," McClenny says.

Another subtle cause of increased soil erosion, according to McClenny, is the increased size of fields being worked in modern agriculture.

In this area, the crops most likely to damage soil through erosion are flue tobacco and grade A dairy feed, because they place the most intensive demands on the land.

"A contributing problem is that our land has a high clay content, and a lot of slope. That makes the water run off a lot faster," according to McClenny.

The USDA estimates that, at the present rate of erosion, the United States will lose 20 percent of its total crop productivity in 50 years. That combined with projected population increases could mean food shortages not too far down the road, McClenny says.

"It may be that we have to raise food prices to conserve food; many people say that if that had been done with oil 10 years ago we wouldn't have the shortages we do today," McClenny notes.

But the objective of the USDA is to prevent that crop productivity from declining. "There are a lot of ways we can attack the problem," he says. "For instance, many farmers don't understand sheet erosion, which goes on almost unnoticed. Rain drops bombard the soil, churn it up and suspend it, and it flows off practically unnoticed."

Educational programs are one way that such subtle types of erosion can be combated, the federal government believes. Educational programs combined with an active program to control erosion that is now in progress would go a long way toward preserving the future productivity of U. S. farmland.

For now, the process of getting the nation's soil-conservation program in shape is just moving out. McClenny notes that documents of studies done on soil-erosion problems are available at his and other soil conservation service offices.

Anyone not able to attend the meetings tonight in Roanoke may submit written comments to the RCA Response Analysis Center, P. O. Box 888, Athens, Ga., 30603. Comments must be signed and postmarked no later than March 28.

'If we don't get a handle on this soon, we may not be able to feed our population in ten or 15 years.'

Public meetings will be held tonight (Thursday) in the Salem-Roanoke Valley Civic Center to gather information on how the federal government can slow down the erosion of America's food-growing potential. The first will be held from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., the second from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

According to McClenny, the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proposing seven alternative ways to improve the programs designed to prevent soil erosion. Included are a proposal for making soil conservation mandatory through national and state legislation; a suggestion that farmers be required to carry out soil-conserving measures before receiving crop insurance, price support payments or other help from USDA's farm program; and a proposal for offering landowners stronger incentives to practice soil conservation through tax reductions, cash bonuses, low-interest loans, and similar methods.

McClenny says the reason for such sweeping proposals is that the current programs, based mostly on voluntary compliance with conservation measures, is not working as well as Congress believes it should.

Deadline for candidates March 4

The filing deadline for Appomattox and Pamplin town elections is March 4, and residents wishing to run for town office must file their declarations of candidacy with the clerk of circuit courts by that date.

The elections for both town councils and both mayors will be held May 6.

The Appomattox Town Council consists of six members – Richard L. Bass, Thomas W. Lawson, Robert C. Hubbard, T. E. "Sonny" Conner, Samuel Carter, Maurice E. Gordon -- and Mayor Ronnie spiggle.

R. C. Hubbard was the only incumbent to have filed for re-election by press time Tuesday afternoon, according to Barbara Williams, clerk of the circuit court.

The Pamplin Town Council presently consists of Mayor J. A. Williams and Councilmen T. C. Ligon, J. M. Inge, Roy P. Lucado, Gilmer Young, and Albert Baldwin.

The council, normally with six members, now has only five, following the death of former Councilman E. N. Harvey.

None of the current Pamplin Council members have yet filed for re-election, according to Williams.

Williams noted that potential candidates must be accompanied by two qualified voters of the election district when filing as a candidate.

School board will conduct census

Between March 15 and April 15, the Appomattox County School Board will conduct a census of the school population. The triennial census is required by Virginia Law.

The census will include all persons who have reached their fifth birthday on or before Dec. 31 of the school year and who have not reached twenty years of age as of Jan. 1 of the school year, who reside in Appomattox County.

The Appomattox County School Board will employ two or three census enumerators. Persons who are interested in being considered for employment as a census enumerator should contact the school board office (352-8251), Lloyd G. Walton, Division Superintendent.

Tarantula in town?

FOLKS VISITING THE APPOMATTOX MIDDLE SCHOOL Science Fair Monday may have been shocked at one of the exhibits. This tarantula, housed in a glass terrarium, was one of numerous biological exhibits on display. While it was a real spider, it was not alive. However, visitors to the Science Fair who were squeamish about eight legged critters, gave the beast a wide berth anyway.